Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council Meeting
October 9, 2018

Agenda Item IV: Council Updates

1) Resources on state funding opportunities

   • Included in the materials for the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (Council) meeting are two publications: "*State Resources to Address California's Homeless Crisis*" and "*California State Homelessness Funding Programs*."

   • The purpose of these publications is to provide local jurisdictions and others engaged in providing housing, services and other supports to individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness with information on the various sources of state funding and programs, what they can be used for, who is eligible to apply, and the target population(s).

   • These publications are intended to be "living documents." Council staff will update them quarterly or as needed. They are both posted on the Council's website and have been sent to everyone subscribing to the Council's listserv. Council members are encouraged to post them on their websites and share them widely.

2) The Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP)

   • At the July 11, 2018 Council meeting, Lynn Von Koch-Liebert, Deputy Secretary for Housing with the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (Agency), mapped out the conceptual framework and timeline for the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP). She outlined a development and implementation schedule that included a commitment to issue a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) in early September and issue awards within 60 days of receipt of a complete application.

   • Since that presentation, the Council team have:

      ✓ Recruited and hired two full-time Council staff to implement the HEAP program: Daniel Castillo as Grant Manager and Lahela Mattox as the Local Government Liaison.
      ✓ Created a Council listserv that has grown from approximately 250 members to more than 750.
      ✓ In August, issued Program Guidance, Frequently Asked Questions, and Application Maps and Instructions to assist local jurisdictions in understanding the program parameters prior to the release of the NOFA.
      ✓ On September 5, issued the NOFA and applications for both the Large City and Continuum of Care (CoC) programs.
      ✓ Contacted all 43 CoCs and 11 large cities to offer information and technical assistance on the program, submitting their HEAP application, and what is required for a complete application.
      ✓ Participated in more than 20 workshops, including events in Sacramento, Oakland, Riverside, Orange County, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Santa Clara, and San Diego, with more scheduled in the weeks and months ahead.

- ✓ Conducted webinars for the League of California Cities, the California State Association of Counties, and the Legislature, and participated in webinars hosted by Housing California, the Corporation for Supportive Housing, and the John Burton Advocates for Youth.
- ✓ Received the first two HEAP applications (from Oakland and San Diego) on September 6, a day after the NOFA was released.
- ✓ Created the HEAP Standard Agreement and sent a sample of the Standard Agreement with instructions to all the large cities and CoCs that have not submitted their application yet.

- As of October 4, the following cities and CoCs have been awarded funds:

  City of Oakland – for $8,671,117
  City of San Diego – for $14,110,397
  City of Los Angeles – for $85,013,607
  City of Long Beach – for $2,869,833
  Bakersfield/Kern Continuum of Care – for $2,604,226

- In total, these awards represent almost 25 percent of the $500 million HEAP allocation.

- As of October 5, the following cities and CoCs have submitted applications that are currently under review:

  City of Santa Ana – for $3,690,886
  City of Glendale—for $625,114
  Kings/Tulare Continuum of Care – for $2,635,249

- Included in the materials for the Council meeting are a recent HEAP update and the documents described above.

3) California Homeless Data Integration System (CHDIS), including Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS)

- At the July 11, 2018 Council meeting, Chris Pitcher, an expert in HMIS and a consultant for the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), made a presentation to the Council that outlined several options for the state to consider in exploring a state-level homeless data integration system, including a state HMIS. At the end of that meeting, Council staff was directed by the Chair to begin exploring options for developing a CHDIS.

- Since that presentation, the Council team have:
  - ✓ Initiated an interagency agreement with the California Department of Technology (CDT) to allow Agency to utilize CDT's expertise in enterprise architecture, procurement and other Information Technology (IT) related areas.
  - ✓ Held vendor demonstrations with three of the vendors currently providing HMIS solutions to CoCs in California to gain a better understanding of the functions and capabilities of current HMIS operating in the state.
  - ✓ Conducted a CoC survey, held an initial conference call with CoCs, and met with the Los Angeles and Sacramento CoCs, to learn more about how local jurisdictions administer their HMIS and how best practices and lessons learned at the local level could inform the state in developing a CHDIS.
  - ✓ Convened twice weekly workshops with CDT to explore the parameters and begin mapping out the business needs of a potential CHDIS.
  - ✓ Identified a state privacy and security expert to advise Agency and CDT on state and federal privacy and security requirements, including the California Information Privacy Act.

- ✓ Submitted the Stage I and Stage II Business Analysis documents required by CDT as part of the state IT project development process.
- ✓ Drafted a Request for Information (RFI) that invites vendors to provide their proposed solutions to meet the goals of a CHDIS and the ballpark cost estimate of their solution. The RFI was issued October 8, 2018.

- As currently envisioned, the CHDIS would consist of two phases:

  - ✓ Phase I would include developing a state-level data warehouse that could import and integrate client-level data from local HMIS and provide an option for CoCs to participate in a state HMIS if they choose to do so. This would allow the State to better understand the scope and characteristics of homelessness throughout California and begin to align state resources more effectively and efficiently with the needs of local communities.
  - ✓ Phase II would include the development of an integrated system that could import and link other client-level data from various state and local programs so that a more comprehensive understanding of how resources are being allocated and whether they are effective in addressing and preventing homelessness would be possible.

- Next steps could include the convening of a Council working group comprised of state department staff, local CoC and HMIS staff, and others with interest or expertise in assisting the Council as it continues exploring the potential development of a CHDIS.